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NEWS

Air Pollution

EPA Partially Approves Utah's Regional Haze Pollution Plan

Two power plants in southeast Utah will be required to reduce haze-forming nitrogen oxide emissions by 9,885 tons a year, under an Environmental Protection Agency final rule....

Air Pollution

Full D.C. Circuit Won't Rehear Air Permitting Lawsuit

The full U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit won't rehear a lawsuit brought by public health organizations that challenged a 1980 Environmental Protection Agency air permitting regulation (Sierra Club de Puerto...

Air Pollution

House Set to Vote Next Week on Olson's Ozone Delay Bill

Legislation that would delay implementation of the 2015 ozone standards by eight years will be on the House's floor agenda when it returns from the Memorial Day recess the week of June 6, according to the bill's sponsor....

Asbestos

Pfizer Not 'Apparent Manufacturer' of Asbestos Cement

Pfizer Inc. isn't liable as an "apparent manufacturer" of Insulag, an asbestos-containing cement made by a company it acquired, the Maryland Court of Special Appeals ruled May 31 (Stein v. Pfizer Inc., 2016 BL 171782, Md. Ct....

Brownfields

Inhofe Praises Oklahoma's Brownfields Efforts

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Sen. James Inhofe (R-Okla.), chairman of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, applauded the Oklahoma Department of Commerce on June 2 for a new study on the economic impact of the state's brownfields program....

Chemicals

TSCA Reform Poised to Clamp Down on Mercury

The Senate is set to clamp down on U.S. mercury commerce and storage regulations nationwide with Toxic Substances Control Act reform passage, a feat that eluded Senate lawmakers on May 26 but continues to be a priority in the chamber....

Climate Change

CBO: Climate Change, Development to Boost Hurricane Costs

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office said it expects hurricane damage and the number of people affected by severe storm damage to rise sharply in coming decades because of climate change and real estate development patterns....

Climate Change

Clean Energy Ministerial Yields New Agreements, Commitments

High-level officials from 23 countries and the European Union have made new commitments to advance the deployment of clean energy to battle climate change, Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz said June 2 in opening the public sessions of the seventh...

Climate Change

EU Preparing for Global Climate Deal Ratification

The European Union's executive will propose this month a procedure for ratification by the bloc of a global climate agreement, according to French Environment Minister Segolene Royal....

Climate Change

Mercer Studying Climate Risks to Foundations, Pensions

Mercer Investment Consulting is helping foundations and public pension funds see how their portfolios could be affected by climate change as part of two new projects announced June 2 during the Clean Energy Ministerial in San Francisco....

Climate Regulation

EPA Publishes Methane Regulations for New Oil, Gas Wells

The Environmental Protection Agency's first-ever methane emission limits for new oil and gas wells will take effect Aug. 2, according to a final rule to be published in the Federal Register June 3....

Courts

Verrilli to Step Down From Post as Solicitor General

The man who argued the Obama administration's biggest legal battles, including defense of high profile environmental and energy regulations such as the mercury standards for power plants, a greenhouse gas permitting program and...

Energy

Exelon Plans to Close Two Illinois Nuclear Plants

Exelon Corp. announced plans to shutter two money-losing nuclear power stations in Illinois June 2, just days after the state legislature declined to act on the energy giant's plan for subsidizing the two facilities with a menu of rate...

Energy

Mexico Plans Power Lines to Link Baja California, U.S.

Mexico is planning a significant expansion of its power lines that will allow it to provide renewable energy to both the U.S. and to Central America, as it seeks to harness the benefits of a recent overhaul of the sector....

Energy

Scientists Lobby Canada Against LNG Project

A group of scientists called on Canada to reject a liquefied natural gas project proposed for Northern British Columbia. In a letter May 30 to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Environment Minister Catherine McKenna, 90 scientists and others...

EPA

EPA to Improve Security Information Procedures

The Environmental Protection Agency will update by the end of August its procedures for revoking security clearances to handle national security information for employees leaving the agency, according to an Office of Inspector General's...

General Policy

Kavanaugh: Three Scalia Dissents Will Become Law

Three dissents by the late U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia will one day be the law of the land, D.C. Circuit Judge Brett M. Kavanaugh predicted June 2....

Hydraulic Fracturing

British Columbia Fracking Permits Could Require Seismic Monitoring

New oil and gas well permits in parts of British Columbia will require reports on ground-motion monitoring during hydraulic fracturing operations, provincial Ministry of Natural Gas Development spokeswoman Lindsay Byers said. The submission...

International Issues

Countries Promise to Strengthen Antarctica Protection

Countries attending the 39th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting in Chile have promised to strengthen efforts to protect Antarctica and the seas that surround it from environmental emergencies....

Oil & Gas

Pipelines May Affect 3,000 Delaware Basin Acres: Study

Pipeline projects in the Delaware River Basin will disturb 2,977 acres of land, 1,050 acres of forest, and cross streams 175 times if built as proposed, a study said June 2....

Pesticides

Bee Study Finds Pesticides in Pollen

A Purdue University study has found that honeybee pollen is consistently contaminated with a number of agricultural and urban pesticides throughout the growing season....

Pesticides

EU Agency Starts Glyphosate Classification Consultation

The European Chemicals Agency June 2 called for comments through July 18 on a German proposal to modify the European Union classification of the active substance glyphosate, which is widely used as a pesticide....

Pesticides

Weed Killer Harming Plants, Wildlife, EPA Finds

The widely used weed killer atrazine is harming many plant and animal species across the country, according to a draft version of an Environmental Protection Agency risk assessment....

Renewable Energy

Abundant Chile Giving Away Solar Energy

Chile's solar industry has expanded so quickly that it's giving electricity away for free. Spot prices reached zero in parts of the country on 113 days through April, a number that's on track to beat last year's total...

Renewable Energy

Alberta Sees Renewable Electricity Competition in December

Alberta's electricity operator expects competition for renewable energy certificates to begin in December, with the first projects generating power in 2019....

Renewable Energy

China's Solar Glut May Drop Installations 80 Percent

Solar panel installations in China may drop by 80 percent in the third quarter as government subsidies decline, according to IHS Inc....

Renewable Energy

Danish Offshore Wind Farm Expected in 2018, Two Years Early

Vattenfall AB accelerated work on a Danish offshore wind farm, saying it will deliver record-low power prices for the technology when the project is finished in 2018, two years ahead of its previous plan....

Renewable Energy

Lease Sale Proposal Set for Wind Farm Off New York

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management is moving two steps closer to holding a competitive lease sale for a wind energy area off the coast of New York, the Interior Department announced June 2....

Renewable Energy

Nations Outline Plan to Double Clean Energy Development by 2021

The U.S. joined 19 other nations and the European Union June 2 in outlining how they'll make good on last year's pledge to

double spending on clean energy research and development to nearly \$30 billion a year by 2021. ...

Stormwater

Stormwater Permit Complicated by Joint Plan, Builders Say

The Environmental Protection Agency may be "complicating compliance" with an upcoming construction general permit by proposing that multiple developers and contractors develop a joint plan to prevent stormwater runoff from...

Superfund

Asarco Challenges Superfund Ruling on Utah Site

Superfund contribution claims filed by Asarco LLC against Noranda Mining Inc. for cleanup costs at a Utah mine were wrongly dismissed, the company asserted in a brief filed in federal appeals court (Asarco LLC v. Noranda Mining Inc., 10th Cir.,...

Sustainability

UN Report Cites Global Pollinator Declines

About a sixth of the world's pollinator species are being driven toward extinction by pressures caused by human actions, a scientific body linked to the United Nations said in a study that recommends reducing pesticide use and adopting...

Trade

Chinese Negotiators Don't Budge in Environmental Goods Talks

Chinese trade negotiators refused to back down from their various demands related to an Environmental Goods Agreement (EGA) during a recent trade meeting in Paris, saying they don't want any "free riders" to benefit from the...

Water Pollution

Baltimore Sewage Overflows Targeted in Consent Decree

Baltimore would get 14 more years to tackle persistent sewage overflows, with some of the most pressing fixes due in five years, under a proposed modification to an existing consent decree with state and federal authorities filed in federal...

BNA INSIGHTS

Epidemiology: A Foundation of Environmental Decision-Making

In August 1854, a cholera epidemic swept through London's Soho neighborhood, leaving more than 500 dead in just 10 days. London physician John Snow mapped the cases and realized that those who had contracted cholera had consumed water...

SPECIAL REPORT

Regulatory Policy

Trump Pledge to Scrap Regulations Might Be Sisyphean Task

Presumptive Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump has pledged to scrap major laws and "job-destroying" regulations from the Obama administration, but will probably find fulfilling that pledge not nearly as easy as rescinding...

REGULATORY AGENDA

Comment Deadlines

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JUNE 3 FEDERAL REGISTER

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